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Salisbury Mayor's Spirit Luncheon to Offer Unique Glimpse into Good Community Works of Sister-City

Members of Salisbury England Delegation to Provide Inspirational Message on Spirit of Service Abroad

Salisbury, NC_September 28, 2010 – Salisbury Mayor Susan Kluttz, in conjunction with City Council Members and the Covenant Community Connection, will graciously welcome attendees to the 2010 Mayor's Spirit Luncheon, to be held at noon on Tuesday, October 5. The bi-annual event takes place at Salisbury City Hall, 217 South Main Street and typically highlights successes throughout the community that have improved race relations by offering exceptional service to others. A diverse audience, consisting of local businessmen and women, faith leaders and citizens, will receive a motivational program entitled "Salisbury Spirit in England" as shared by the Honorable Bobbi Chettleburgh and the Honorable Jeremy Nettle.

Speaking on behalf of the Salisbury City Council, Mayor Kluttz notes, "It is a sincere honor to welcome our guests from Salisbury, England." The two cities signed a resolution establishing a sister-city relationship in 2001. "The Sister Cities program began as a national concept in 1956, when President Dwight D. Eisenhower called for massive exchanges between Americans and people of other countries in efforts to promote global harmony. Sister-city relationships have since been utilized to create understanding and goodwill by allowing the exchange of people, ideas, technology, and differing cultures." The Mayor notes that the Spirit Luncheon message offered by the English delegation will provide an exclusive view into the areas of dedicated leadership and outstanding community service abroad. "The Sister Cities program promotes world peace by providing opportunity for engagement at the individual level. We are indeed honored to hold a sister-city relationship with Salisbury, England. Through the contrasting of cultures and by engaging and learning from one another, we can ensure that our shared 'Salisbury Spirit of Service' continues to grow and endure."

Luncheon attendees will enjoy port-a-pit barbecue chicken dinners, purchased in support of the annual Habit for Humanity fundraising project. Mayor Kluttz will introduce four local diverse clergy and faith leaders to offer the invocation through blessings, songs of praise, and prayers. The Mayor offers, "We are a

community filled with many different races, religions, and cultures. By sharing these various invocations, we are better able to understand the diversity of our local faiths. The intent of today's luncheon is to bring together citizens of dissimilar races, ethnicities, and beliefs, through a kindred spirit of positive fellowship." Mayor Kluttz notes that Spirit Celebrations have taken place in Salisbury since 1999. Each program topic is reflective of people or organizations that have contributed to community harmony through a spirit of diversity, service, and inclusion. Kluttz adds, "By actively encouraging and promoting better race relations throughout our community, we continue to take enormous strides in our efforts to create an environment filled with understanding, compassion, and love for our fellow man."

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